

## Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 DODE-00 CIAE-00  
INRE-00 ACDE-00 DOEE-00 /026 W  
-----074880 212024Z /41  
O 211919Z MAR 78  
FM USMISSION GENEVA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7474  
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 02 GENEVA 04325

EXDIS USCTB

PASS TO DOE

E.O.11652:XGDS-3  
TAGS: PARM US UK UR  
SUBJECT: CTB NEGOTIATIONS: UK PLENARY STATEMENT,  
MARCH 21, 1978

CTB MESSAGE NO.185

FOLLOWING IS STATEMENT DELIVERED BY EDMONDS (UK) AT  
MARCH 21 PLENARY.

BEGIN TEXT: 1. TODAY WE COMPLETE NINE WEEKS OF CONTINU-  
OUS TRIPARTITE NEGOTIATIONS, WHICH IS EASILY THE LONGEST  
ROUND TO DATE. FRANKLY, I BELIEVE ALL 3 DELEGATIONS  
NEED A REST, AND I HOPE THE RECESS WILL ENABLE US ALL TO  
RETURN ON APRIL 19 REFRESHED IN MIND, BODY AND SPIRIT.  
EVEN MORE IMPORTANT, I HOPE WE SHALL ALL USE THE RECESS  
TO THINK CONSTRUCTIVELY IN OUR CAPITALS, WITH THE AIM  
OF COMING BACK TO GENEVA WITH SOME POSITIVE IDEAS DESIGNED  
TO OVERCOME OUR REMAINING PROBLEMS.

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2. ALL THREE DELEGATIONS HAVE REFERRED REPEATEDLY TO THE  
NEED, AND TO THEIR READINESS, TO MAKE PROGRESS ON ALL  
FRONTS. WE LONG AGO IDENTIFIED THE 3 MAIN ISSUES AS  
DURATION OF THE TREATY, THE PROTOCOL DEALING WITH PEACEFUL  
NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS, AND VERIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE WITH  
THE TREATY. IN PRACTICE, THIS SESSION HAS BEEN DOMINATED  
BY VERIFICATION, TO THE VIRTUAL EXCLUSION OF THE OTHER

2 ISSUES. THIS CONCENTRATION OF EFFORT ON ONE SUBJECT, ADMITTEDLY A VERY IMPORTANT AND COMPLEX ONE, WILL BE JUSTIFIED IF IT HAS ALLOWED OUR 3 GOVERNMENTS TO FIND WAYS OF REACHING AN AGREEMENT ACCEPTABLE TO ALL.

3. THE EFFECTIVENESS AND DURABILITY OF A COMPREHENSIVE TEST BAN TREATY WILL DEPEND ON THE CONFIDENCE OF OUR GOVERNMENTS AND PEOPLES IN ITS VERIFICATION PROVISIONS. THERE IS NO DIFFERENCE BETWEEN US ON THE IMPORTANCE OF NATIONAL TECHNICAL MEANS AND OF THE INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE OF SEISMIC DATA. SO IN PRACTICE THE ADDITIONAL CONFIDENCE WE SEEK DEPENDS ON REACHING AGREEMENT ON THE PROVISIONS IN THE SEPARATE VERIFICATION AGREEMENT FOR INTERNAL SEISMIC INSTALLATIONS AND ON-SITE INSPECTIONS. THE 3 HEADS OF DELEGATION HAVE IN RECENT WEEKS DEVOTED NEARLY ALL THEIR NEGOTIATING TIME TO THESE 2 SUBJECTS. AS A RESULT, MY DELEGATION BELIEVES THAT WE ALL THREE OUGHT TO KNOW WHAT WE HAVE TO DO TO RESOLVE THE OUTSTANDING VERIFICATION ISSUES SO AS TO MEET THE NEEDS AND CONCERNS OF OUR PARTNERS.

4. I WILL NOT PRESUME, IN THIS SHORT STATEMENT IN PLENARY SESSION, TO TELL THE SOVIET AND US DELEGATIONS EXACTLY WHAT MY DELEGATION HOPES THEY WILL DO IN THE RECESS. BUT I WILL TELL THEM WHAT THE UK DELEGATION INTENDS TO DO. WE SHALL AIM TO RETURN ON APRIL 19 WITH CLEAR PROPOSALS  
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FOR UK PARTICIPATION IN THE SEPARATE AGREEMENT. WE HOPE THOSE PROPOSALS WILL BE REGARDED BY OUR PARTNERS, AND IN DUE COURSE BY ALL OTHER STATES INTERESTED, AS A POSITIVE FACTOR - FOR THESE NEGOTIATIONS AND FOR AN EFFECTIVE TREATY. THAT IS ONE CLEAR "HOLIDAY TASK" FOR THIS DELEGATION AND WE FULLY ACCEPT IT AS OUR DUTY TO OUR PARTNERS. IN RETURN I HOPE THEIR HOLIDAY EFFORTS WILL MAKE IT MUCH EASIER FOR THE UK TO SEE WHAT THE SEPARATE AGREEMENT WILL CONTAIN. MY DELEGATION'S VIEW IS THAT THIS COULD BE SOMEWHAT LESS DETAILED THAN IN THE VARIOUS US DRAFT PAPERS BUT CONSIDERABLY MORE DETAILED THAN IN THE SOVIET DRAFT SEPARATE AGREEMENT CIRCULATED ON MARCH 15.

5. DR. MOROKHOV INDICATED ON MARCH 7 THAT, IF THESE VERIFICATION ISSUES CAN BE SATISFACTORILY RESOLVED, AND A SUITABLE FORMULA FOUND FOR PNE, THE SOVIET DELEGATION WOULD NOT EXPECT GREAT DIFFICULTY OVER THE OTHER MAIN ISSUE - DURATION. AS REGARDS PNE, HE GAVE US A POSITIVE INDICATION ON FEBRUARY 13 WHEN HE STATED HIS UNDERSTANDING OF THE "COMPLEXITY OF A SITUATION IN WHICH A BAN ON NUCLEAR WEAPONS TESTS WOULD REMAIN, BUT PEACEFUL NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS COULD BE RESUMED IN THE ABSENCE OF AN AGREEMENT ON ARRANGEMENTS

FOR THEIR CONDUCT". ON FEBRUARY 16, I WELCOMED DR. MOROKHOV'S STATEMENT AND SET OUT THE UK DELEGATION'S POSITION IN THE LIGHT OF IT. I WOULD JUST ADD NOW THAT MY DELEGATION HAS THE DISTINCT IMPRESSION THAT THE THREE OF US ARE CAPABLE OF FINDING AN ACCEPTABLE COMPROMISE ON THE SUBJECT OF PNE, PROVIDED THAT WE ALSO DO SO ON THE QUESTION OF DURATION.

6. I MUST SAY THAT WE ARE NOT AS CLEAR ABOUT THE UP-TO-DATE SOVIET POSITION ON DURATION AS WE HOPED AND

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O 211919Z MAR 78  
FM USMISSION GENEVA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7475  
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

S E C R E T SECTION 02 OF 02 GENEVA 04325

EXDIS USCTB

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EXPECTED TO BE BY THE END OF THIS ROUND. WE WERE ENCOURAGED BY DR. MOROKHOV'S STATEMENT OF FEBRUARY 6 THAT THE SOVIET DELEGATION WOULD BE PREPARED TO CONSIDER A DIFFERENT FORMULA, PROVIDED CERTAIN CONDITIONS WERE MET. SINCE THEN, THE SOVIET DELEGATION HAS KEPT US IN SUSPENSE. IT IS MY DELEGATION'S UNDERSTANDING THAT THIS IS BECAUSE THEIR "CERTAIN CONDITIONS" CONCERNED VERIFICATION. I THINK IT IS FAIR TO SAY THAT THEIR NEGOTIATING PARTNERS, AND ESPECIALLY THE US DELEGATION, HAVE MADE GREAT EFFORTS TO MEET THOSE SOVIET CONDITIONS. I VERY MUCH HOPE THAT DURING THE RECESS THE SOVIET DELEGATION WILL VERY SERIOUSLY CONSIDER MAKING A CLEARER STATEMENT OF THEIR LATEST IDEAS ON THE WHOLE QUESTION OF DURATION, VERY EARLY IN THE NEXT ROUND. IF THEY CAN DO THIS, THE UK DELEGATION EXPECTS TO BE READY TO RESPOND.

7. IN THIS STATEMENT, I HAVE TRIED TO LOOK TO THE FUTURE  
AND IN A POSITIVE SPIRIT. I HAVE STRESSED THE WORK THAT  
THE UK DELEGATION BELIEVES IT HAS TO DO AND LEFT OUR  
PARTNERS TO SAY WHERE THEY BELIEVE THEIR DUTY LIES. IT IS  
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THE UK DELEGATION'S HOPE THAT WE SHALL ALL USE THE RECESS  
TO DEVELOP OUR POSITIONS POSITIVELY, IN THE LIGHT OF OUR  
UNDERSTANDING OF OUR PARTNERS' POSITIONS. OUR OBJECTIVE,  
WHICH WE BELIEVE OUR PARTNERS FULLY SHARE, IS TO ARRIVE  
AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AT AGREEMENT ON THE CONTENTS OF A  
MULTILATERAL TREATY AND A SEPARATE VERIFICATION AGREEMENT,  
WHICH WILL SATISFY ALL 3 OF OUR GOVERNMENTS AND THE  
GREAT MAJORITY OF ALL STATES. END TEXT. WARNKE

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## Message Attributes

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**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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